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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of: Degli-Esposti Rankin et al.

Attorney Docket No. : 2849-A

Serial No.: 08/943,776

Group Art Unit: 1646

Filed: October 3, 1997

Examiner: Lorraine Spector

For: Novel Receptor That Causes Cell Death

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 24, 1998 in connection with the above-referenced patent application, Applicant amends the Application as provided below. A request for an extension of time in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action and the appropriate fee accompanies this Amendment and Response.

In the Claims:

1. (amended) An isolated DNA selected from the group consisting of:

(a) [a] DNA encoding a protein having an amino acid sequence of amino acids 1 through 417 of SEQ ID NO: 2;

(b) [a] DNA encoding a protein having an amino acid sequence of amino acids 1 through 411 of SEQ ID NO: [5]6;

(c) DNA molecules capable of hybridization to the DNA of (a) under stringent conditions that include 50°C, and 5X SSC, and which encode [biologically active AIR] a polypeptide capable of inducing apoptosis; and

(d) DNA molecules encoding biologically active fragments of proteins encoded by the DNA of (a), (b) or (c).

2. [The DNA according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of] An oligonucleotide[s] consisting of a fragment of the nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:1 that encodes the cytoplasmic domain, the fragment being at least about 17 nucleotides in length[, oligonucleotides of at least about 25 nucleotides in length, and oligonucleotides of at least about 30 nucleotides in length, having a nucleotide sequence derived from the DNA of SEQ ID NO:1 that encodes the cytoplasmic domain of apoptosis inducing receptor (AIR)].